

Hawaii Navy News



IN BRIEF

"House of Hazards" to visit military housing areas

The Federal Fire Department will exhibit its "House of Hazards" at various military neighborhoods on Oahu until Oct. 19.

The "House of Hazards" is a replica of 'typical' home in a residential neighborhood loaded with various every-day hazards such as a stove left on with cooking oil in a frying pan, overloaded extension cords, lighters and matches left unattended around children, blocked exits, frayed wiring and a gasoline container stored near a gas heater.

Fire inspectors will assist the public through the different scenarios and point out the various hazards. The "House of Hazards" project will fall in line with this year's Fire Prevention Week theme of "Fire drills, the great escape."

A fire truck will be on public display at every "House of Hazards." Every one is welcomed to check out the fire truck and talk with the firefighters. The "House of Hazards" will be on display at the following military housing areas from 4-8 p.m.

•Oct. 13 - 962-B Mahogany St., Aliamanu Mil. Housing

•Oct. 16 - 2427-D Dodson St., Kaneohe Marine Base Housing

•Oct. 18 - 4045-B Bougainville St., Kalaeloa Hale Makai Housing

•Oct. 19 - 101 Singleton Street, Pearl Harbor Hale Moku Housing.

For more information, contact Victor M. Flint at 473-1223 or 577-1574.

Navy officers birthday ball

The Navy Officers Birthday Ball will be held tomorrow at the Sheraton Waikiki grand ballroom. The evening begins with no-host cocktails at 6 p.m. and officers call at 6:45 p.m. Complimentary sodas will be provided all evening.

Uniform is dinner dress white jacket for O4 and senior; optional uniform for O3 and junior is service dress white, no gloves or covers. Evening attire (black tie) for civilian guests is encouraged.

Additional details can be found at the Navy Officers Birthday Ball website at <http://1freespace.com/navyball2k>.

INSIDE



MWR pools are a great way to cool off, stay fit and they offer activities for the entire family... B-1

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Navy awards NMCI contract

New intranet to make Naval service more efficient

Lost boaters rescued



VP-9 photo

Search and Rescue swimmer from HSL-37, ?, prepares Ian Buscher, Tom Zelko and dog Lucky for hoisting into a Navy helicopter Oct. 4. The two men and the dog spent three days lost at sea after a fishing trip north-west of Oahu.

Navy, Coast Guard, Civil Air team to help lost boaters

By Lt. Greg Petrovic
VP-9 PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

On Oct. 4 at 2:20 p.m. a U.S. Navy P-3 Orion from Patrol Squadron Nine (VP 9) found Ian Buscher and Tom Zelko who had been missing for three days.

Buscher and Zelko left Kaneohe on Oct. 1 in their 15-foot Boston Whaler to go fishing off the coast of Molokai. When they did not return as scheduled, their trip turned into a massive search and rescue effort coordinated by the Joint Rescue Coordination Center (JRCC).

The rescue operation included over 150 Navy, Coast Guard, and volun-

teer aviators flying 26 sorties. The search effort covered over 51,000 square miles of ocean. Zelko and Buscher were accompanied by their black labrador, Lucky. The three survived on beer, melted ice from their cooler, pop tarts, and cheese crackers.

At 6:30 a.m. on Oct. 4, VP-9 launched its second aircraft to join the search. Aircraft commander Lt. Erin Osborne set out to search an area northwest of Oahu. Around 2:20 p.m., Aviation Warfare Systems Operator 1st Class Gary Phillips had a radar contact 67 miles northwest of Kaneohe. Lt. Cmdr. Greg Harris, the mission commander aboard the aircraft, directed the plane to that area. Subsequent low altitude passes con-

firmed that this was the boat of interest. The crew deployed a "search and rescue kit" which contained two life rafts, emergency food rations, and water.

The crew of the P-3 relayed to the JRCC they had found the boaters. The JRCC directed a SH-60 SeaHawk helicopter from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL 37) to the scene. Once at the scene, a rescue swimmer from HSL-37 made personal contact with the boaters and hoisted them into the helicopter.

The men were brought back to Kaneohe Marine Corps Base and then transported to Castle Medical Center. All three boaters were fine after their ordeal.

USS Reuben James to return home today from CARAT 2000

By JOCS(SW) Phil Eggman
NAVY REGION HAWAII

THE 216 officers and Sailors of the Pearl Harbor based ship, USS Reuben James (FFG 57) are scheduled to return today from a five-month deployment as part of a U.S. naval task group for the sixth annual Cooperation Afloat Readiness and

Training (CARAT) 2000 exercise in Southeast Asia.

CARAT is a series of bilateral exercises between U.S. forces and the military forces of Brunei, Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand. The first phase of CARAT 2000 began in the Philippines on June 14 and the final phase, conducted in Singapore, ended Sept. 22.

Reuben James was joined by two SH-60B Seahawk helicopters, led by

Lt.Cmdr. Pete Turner, and 22 personnel from Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (Light) 37 (HSL 37), Detachment Four, based at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

CARAT is designed to promote interoperability between U.S. forces and those of participating nations in the areas of operational planning, command and control, and tactics. CARAT

▼ See REUBEN JAMES, A-8

Navy partners with Fish and Wildlife Service for clean-up

By Bill Roome
NAVY REGION HAWAII

The Navy in Hawaii has a strong partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS). Sailors and family members spend numerous hours working with FWS staff to improve conditions for native as well as migratory birds at the James Campbell and Honouliuli Unit of the Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuges.

These weekend outings include creating new habitats, food sources, nesting and foraging areas for hundreds of birds that visit or reside at the two wildlife sites. Sailors and family members have also cleared away vegetation and trash at the Honouliuli Unit so the roughly 5,000 third-grade students who attend classes annually at the

site can get a closer look at the waterbirds, shorebirds and waterfowl.

So, when Ms. Donna Stovall, Refuge Manager, Oahu National Wildlife Refuge Complex, needed assistance with restoring a pond at the Honouliuli Unit she contacted Navy Region Hawaii. According to Stovall, the pond provided little value to waterbirds because of a mammoth overgrowth of invasive vegetation.

According to Stovall, her FWS staff cleared about five acres of stubborn vegetation at the national wildlife refuge. However, once the vegetation was removed, it was apparent to the FWS staff that additional work was required before the pond would be suitable for waterbirds.

▼ See NAVY, A-6



Bill Roome photo

E02 Charles Stinson from Construction Battalion Unit (CBU) 413 uses his engineering skills to construct a drainage system at the Honouliuli Unit of the Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuge while his supervisor, E01 Michael Bradley looks on. The Navy Seabees volunteered their time to help the refuge.

By the office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)

WASHINGTON (NWS) - Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig today awarded a \$6,938,817,954 contract to Electronic Data Systems Corporation (EDS), of Plano, Texas, to build and maintain a Department-wide Navy/Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI).

The NMCI will make the naval service more efficient, more productive and enhance its readiness by providing data, video and voice communications to link shore units and interface with the Information Technology for the 21st Century (IT-21) initiative for afloat units.

"NMCI will provide a global network architecture to enhance interoperability with shipboard IT-21 and Marine Corps Tactical Network capabilities," said Danzig. "It enhances and enables our Sailors, Marines and civilians to increase their productivity and access resources that extend throughout the Navy/Marine Corps team and our nation."

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark echoed that sentiment. "The best thing about NMCI is that we can eliminate the existing stovepipe systems and modernize the way we do business," he said.

"If we tried to do this ourselves," stated Commandant of the Marine Corps General James L. Jones, "we would wind up losing pace with technology."

The NMCI is an integrated computer network that will replace the numerous existing shore-based command data networks throughout the department. The intranet will provide increased security, worldwide accessibility, and interoperability with other military services.

The NMCI contract with EDS transitions the department from a government-owned and operated environment to buying a service, much like a utility. NMCI uses recognized information technology (IT) industry expertise to connect the entire department so that Sailors, Marines and civilians can communicate effectively at a lower budget cost.

Under the five-year contract, EDS will be responsible for meeting security and quality of service requirements, training personnel, and maintaining and operating the network infrastructure that will support about 360,000 users.

Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) and other elements of the naval aviation community will be the first organizations to implement NMCI, beginning in October. After the first quarter of NMCI implementation, there will be a brief pause to assess how NMCI is meeting the performance goals of the contract.

The scope of NMCI includes communication between users within the continental United States, Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, Iceland and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The department plans to have NMCI fully implemented by June 2003. The Department of the Navy conducted extensive market research and attained valuable input from hundreds of private sector corporations before deciding to select a single prime contractor to provide the Navy and Marine Corps' IT support.

Further questions regarding the NMCI contract may be addressed to the Navy Office of Information at (703) 697-5342.